

the election of board members as it may deem necessary. Whenever practical, such polling places shall be established in the building where the annual school meeting is held. In such counties, the board shall also provide for an official printed ballot for the election of board members upon which shall be printed only the name of each person who files with the district clerk a written declaration of his candidacy at least 15 days prior to the date of such election. Said ballot, however, shall be so arranged as to admit of any other person being voted for by the elector if he so desires.

Approved July 7, 1943.

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#### CHAPTER 471.

AN ACT to create 66.525 of the statutes, authorizing any town or school district to establish, finance and maintain a department of public recreation, independently or jointly.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

66.525 of the statutes is created to read:

66.525 RECREATION AUTHORITY. (1) (a) Funds for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of a department of recreation may be appropriated by the governing body of any town or school district or such funds must be appropriated following a favorable referendum conducted at any regular or special election.

(b) The governing body of any town or school district may, upon its own initiative, order such a referendum and shall order such a referendum upon written petition signed by not less than 15 per cent of the total electors whose votes were cast for the office of governor at the last regular election of such town or school district.

(c) The petition for a referendum shall state the amount of money to be appropriated from the general fund or the amount of money to be raised by a mill tax for the purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining such a recreation department.

(d) Following a favorable mill tax referendum, the mill tax necessary to raise the required amount to establish, maintain and

operate a department of public recreation shall be levied annually on the taxable property in any such governmental unit. Such moneys levied and collected shall not be used directly or indirectly for any other purpose.

(2) (a) Any town or school district may delegate the power to establish, maintain, and operate a department of public recreation to a board of recreation, which shall consist of 3 members and shall be appointed by the chairman, or other presiding officer of the governing unit.

(b) When 2 or more of the aforesaid governing units desire to conduct, jointly, a department of public recreation, the joint recreation board shall consist of not less than 3 members who shall be appointed by the chairman or other presiding officer of each such governmental unit.

(c) The members of any such recreation board shall serve gratuitously.

(d) Such recreation board is authorized to conduct the activities of such public recreation department, to expend funds therefor, to employ a supervisor of recreation, to employ assistants, to purchase equipment and supplies, and generally to supervise the administration, maintenance, and operation of such department and recreational activities authorized by the board.

(3) The public recreation board has the right to conduct public recreation activities on property purchased or leased by any such governing unit for recreational purposes and under its own custody, on other public property under the custody of any other public authority, body, or board with the consent of such public authority, body, or board, or on private property with the consent of its owner, and such board has the right to accept gifts and bequests of land, money, or other personal property, and to use the same in whole or in part, or the income therefrom or the proceeds from the sale of any such property in the establishment, maintenance, and operation of recreational activities authorized by the board.

Approved July 7, 1943.